

NUMERICAL STUDY OF CRASHWORTHINESS
ON HONEYCOMB FILLER SUBJECTED TO
IMPACT LOADING

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STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Malaysia Pahang or any other institutions.

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ABSTRAK

Pengisi sarang lebah adalah komponen yang baik bagi peralatan penyerapan tenaga untuk struktur kereta. Banyak kajian berkenaan pengisi sarang lebah di bawah impak hadapan beban paksi telah dijalankan dan dicadangkan di dalam kajian literatur. Namun, apabila kemalangan sebenar terjadi, pelanggaran bukan sahaja datang daripada impak hadapan (beban paksi), malah dari pelbagai sudut (beban serong). Oleh itu, ketahanan pelanggaran daripada pelbagai sudut yang paling penting di dalam rekaan keselamatan kenderaan. Kriteria ketahanan pelanggaran yang dikenali sebagai penyerapan tenaga (EA) dan penyerapan tenaga khusus (SEA) adalah berkait dengan parameter pemuatan. Keselamatan merupakan satu ciri keutamaan di dalam reka bentuk sesebuah penyerap tenaga. Walau bagaimanapun, tidak mengenakan berat berlebihan ke atas penyerap tenaga juga menjadi perhatian pengeluar. Hal ini adalah kerana semakin ringan sesebuah kenderaan, semakin sedikit bahan bakar yang digunakan untuk lebih mesra alam. Objektif utama kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji prestasi pengisi sarang lebah dengan rekabentuk keratan rentas yang berbeza dengan ketebalan yang dikenakan pada sudut impak pemuatan yang berbeza. Penyiasatan ini dijalankan secara Finite Element (FE) menggunakan perisian ABAQUS. Penyiasatan dilaksanakan dengan mengenakan impak dinamik terhadap semua model FE pengisi sarang lebah. Penyiasatan numerikal mengkaji tindak balas tiga reka bentuk geometri pengisi iaitu pengisi sarang lebah berbentuk bulatan, heksagon dan struktur berbilang sel. Diameter bagi setiap satu sel pengisi sarang lebah ditetapkan kepada 10.4 mm. Tiga ketebalan berbeza bagi setiap sel berukuran $t = 0.06$ mm, 0.12 mm dan 0.18 mm telah dikaji. Semua model dijalankan dengan menggunakan impak dinamik beban paksi dan beban serong yang bersudut $\theta = 0^\circ, 10^\circ, 20^\circ$ dan 30° . Bahan logam yang digunakan terhadap setiap model adalah aloi aluminium AA6060-T4. Berdasarkan rekabentuk struktur tersebut, pengisi sarang lebah berbentuk heksagon adalah reka bentuk yang terbaik. Keputusan bagi EA, SEA dan CFE untuk pengisi sarang lebah berbentuk heksagon ialah 120% lebih tinggi berbanding pengisi sarang lebah berbentuk bulatan dan 230 % lebih tinggi daripada pengisi berbilang sel. Berdasarkan keputusan analisa ini boleh dirumuskan bahawa apabila ketebalan pengisi sarang lebah meningkat, maka prestasi kriteria crashworthiness juga meningkat. Apabila ketebalan meningkat daripada 0.06 mm ke 0.12 mm, EA dan CFE meningkat lebih kurang 290 % dan SEA meningkat lebih kurang 150 %. Apabila ketebalan bertambah daripada 0.12 mm ke 0.18 mm, EA, SEA dan CFE masing-masing meningkat lebih kurang 170 %, 120 % dan 190 %. Apabila ketebalan bertambah daripada 0.06 mm ke 0.18, EA, SEA dan CFE masing-masing juga dianggarkan meningkat sebanyak 500 %, 170 % dan 550 %. Peningkatan tersebut adalah lebih tinggi daripada nisbah ketebalan iaitu sebanyak 200 % bagi peningkatan daripada 0.06 mm ke 0.12 mm, 150 % bagi peningkatan daripada 0.12 mm ke 0.18 mm dan 300 % bagi peningkatan 0.06 mm ke 0.18 mm. Akhir sekali, beban paksi dan beban sarang pengisi sarang lebah bersudut $\theta = 0^\circ - 30^\circ$ juga dikaji. Keputusan menunjukkan prestasi EA dan SEA menurun apabila sudut, θ meningkat. Kesimpulannya, keseluruhan keputusan menunjukkan pengisi sarang lebah berbentuk heksagon adalah model terbaik dari segi geometri, ketebalan dan sudut pemuatan.

ABSTRACT

Honeycomb filler is known as a good filler for energy absorbing devices in car. Many types of research about honeycomb filler under axial impact had been done and proposed in the literature. However, when it comes to the real situation in an accident, a collision is not only coming from a frontal impact (axial loading). A collision might also come from a different angle (oblique loading). Therefore, crashworthiness in several impact angles are important concern in designing a safe vehicle. The crashworthiness criteria, namely energy absorption (EA) and specific energy absorption (SEA) are related to loading parameters. Safety is the main concern in designing an energy absorber. However, reducing the extra weight caused by the energy absorber is also one of the concerns for manufacturers. This is because the lighter the weight the vehicle has the lesser fuel is consumed to be eco-friendly. In this study, the main objective is to study the performance of honeycomb fillers by different cross-sectional design versus thickness subjected to different angles of impact loading. The investigation is carried out by Finite Element (FE) simulation using ABAQUS software. The investigations of all FE models are carried out by the dynamic impact test. Numerical investigation studies the reaction of three types of honeycomb filler geometric designs which are circular honeycomb filler, hexagon honeycomb filler and multicell. The diameter of every single cell for honeycomb filler is fixed at 10.4 mm. Three different thicknesses of every cell are investigated which are $t = 0.06$ mm, 0.12 mm, and 0.18 mm. All models are carried out by dynamic impact with both axial and oblique loading which $\theta = 0^\circ, 10^\circ, 20^\circ$, and 30° . The material assigned to all models is aluminium alloy AA6060-T4. According to simulation result in this study, hexagon honeycomb filler is the best structural design. The result of EA, SEA, and CFE of hexagon honeycomb filler is 120 % higher than circular honeycomb filler and 230 % higher than multicell filler. The crashworthiness is influenced by the thickness of honeycomb filler, the thickness of honeycomb filler increased, then crashworthiness criteria performance increased. When thickness increased from 0.06 mm to 0.12 mm, the EA and CFE increased by approximately 290 % and SEA increased by approximately 150 %. When thickness increased from 0.12 mm to 0.18 mm, the EA, SEA, and CFE increased by approximately 170 %, 120 % and 190 %, respectively. When thickness increased from 0.06 mm to 0.18 mm, the EA, SEA, and CFE increased by approximately 500 %, 170 %, and 550 %, respectively. The increment is much higher than the aspect ratio of thickness of 200 %, 150 %, and 300 % respect to 0.06 mm to 0.12 mm, 0.12 mm to 0.18 mm, and 0.06 mm to 0.18 mm. Lastly, the axial loading and oblique loading of honeycomb fillers with angles, $\theta = 0^\circ - 30^\circ$ are studied. Results showed that the performance of EA and SEA decreased when angles, θ increased. In conclusion, the overall result showed that hexagon honeycomb filler is the best model in terms of geometry, thickness, and angle of loading.

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LIST OF SYMBOLS

Fds	Area under the load-displacement
m	Mass of the component
h	Thickness of shell
C	Material-dependent constant
D	Diameter
D_{shell}	Diameter of the shell
E	Energy absorbed
M_0	Column wall flow stress
c	Width of the column
H	Half-fold length
d	Crushing distance
d_{max}	Effective crushing distance
$\sigma_{0.2}$	0.2% plastic strain
σ_{Ult}	Ultimate stress
σ_0	Flow stress
β	Hinge rotation angle
P_d	Dynamic crash force
P_s	Static crash force
V_0	Initial impact velocity
σ_0^d	Dynamic flow stress
σ_0^s	Static flow stress
P	Material constants determined from the dynamic tensile tests
$^\circ$	Degree of angles
θ	Angle of loading
r	Radius
t	Thickness
s	Displacement

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CAE	Computer-Aided Engineering
CFE	Force Efficiency Crush
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
EA	Energy Absorption
FE	Finite Element
FEM	Finite Element Method
FGH	Functionally Graded Honeycomb
LTVs	Light trucks and vans
MCF	Mean Crush Force
PCF	Peak Crush Force
RSM	Response Surface Method
SE	Stroke Efficiency
SEA	Specific Energy Absorption
SLTV	Supervisory LTV
SUVs	Sport Utility Vehicles

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